

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 00565 091544Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06
PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 /061 W
-----091553Z 087657 /53

R 091446Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5109
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS TORONTO 0565

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: EWWT, CA
SUBJECT: ONTARIO ACTIVITIES REGARDING PROPOSAL RAISE ST. LAWRENCE
SEAWAY TOLLS

REF: OTTAWA 1244

1. STUDY ANNOUNCED MARCH 4 BY MINISTER SNOW ON ECONOMICS OF PROPOSED SEAWAY TOLL INCREASES BEING CONDUCTED ECONOMIC POLICY DIVISION OF ONTARIO MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS. ACCORDING ROBIN SUMMERLY, DIVISION CHIEF, EVERY EFFORT BEING MADE TO DEVELOP AND INDEPENDENT AND INFORMED STUDY ON THE EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED TOLL INCREASES AND, AS PART OF THE ASSESSMENT, WHAT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE. STUDY WILL LOOK AT WHAT WILL HAPPEN UN USER INDUSTRIES. SECTORS SUCH AS STEEL AND PAPER NOW BEING ASKED PROVIDE DATA ON WHAT THEIR INVESTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT PLANS WOULD BE IF TOLL INCREASES IMPLEMENTED. WHILE INPUT FROM THESE SECTORS, FROM SHIPPERS AND FROM VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS BASIC TO STUDY, MINISTRY MAKING REAL EFFORD AVOID UNDUE INFLUENCE BY ANY PRESSURE GROUPS.

2. SUMMERLY ESTIMATES STUDY WILL TAKE 3 TO 4 MONTHS, AND AS TOLL CHANGES CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE 1978, RESULTS OF STUDY WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE OTTAWA CAN EFFECT INCREASES.
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SUMMERLY NOTED THAT OTTAWA COULD NOT BE STOPPED FROM IMPOSING TOLL INCREASES, NO MATTER WHAT ONTARIO STUDY SHOWS, AND IS ALREADY OPENING NEGOTIATIONS WITH WASHINGTON TO THIS END.

3. IN MARCH 4 STATEMENT SNOW AGREED WITH FEDERAL TRANSPORT MINISTER LANG ON CANCELLATION OF SEAWAY DEBT BUT QUESTIONED TOLL INCREASES WIHTOUT ECONOMIC STUDY. COPOES OF SNOW STATEMENT POUCHED BY

EMBASSY OTTAWA TO BLAKEMORE EUR/CAN, PURCELL EB/MA AND OBERLIN,
ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORP.

4. COMMENT. ONTARIO PAPER MAY BE OF PADDITIONAL VALUE IN FORCING
CONCERNED PARTIES TO QUANTIFY AND SPECIFY. MILLERS, STEEL FIRMS,
ETC., ALL TALKING ABOUT UNACCEPTABLE COST INCREASES:
SHIPPING COMPANIES ABOUT LOSS OF BUSINESS. HOWEVER, NEGATIVE
EFFECTS ANTICIPATED TO PRESS VERY VAGUE AND ABVIOUSLY WITHOUT
SUPPORTING DATA.

DIGGINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STUDIES, FEES, INLAND WATERWAYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: TORONTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b6bed1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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